

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
23 December 2004 (23.12.2004)

PCT

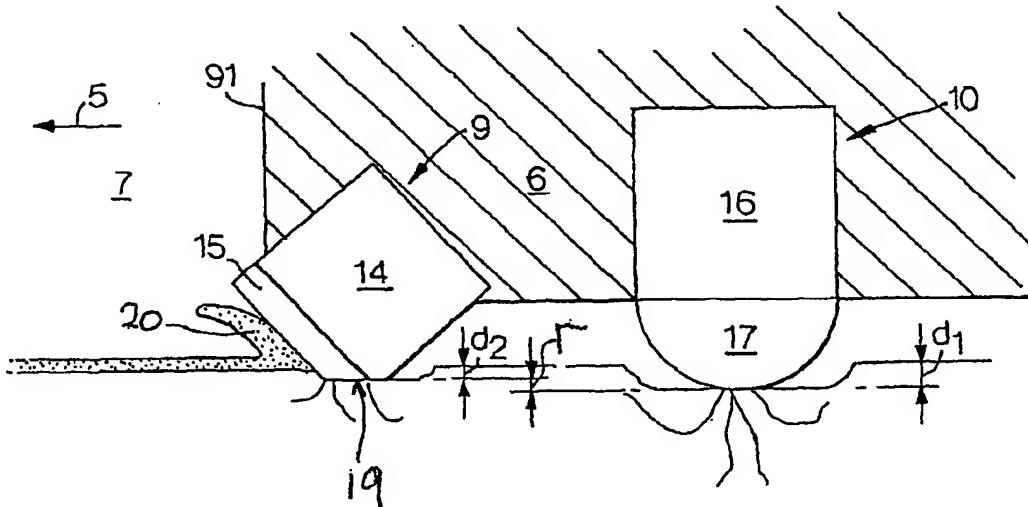
(10) International Publication Number
WO 2004/111381 A1

- (51) International Patent Classification⁷: E21B 10/36,
10/56, 10/40
- (21) International Application Number:
PCT/EP2004/051094
- (22) International Filing Date: 11 June 2004 (11.06.2004)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data:
03076824.6 12 June 2003 (12.06.2003) EP
- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except CA, US): SHELL INTERNATIONALE RESEARCH MAATSCHAPPIJ B.V. [NL/NL]; Carel van Bylandtlaan 30, NL-2596 HR The Hague (NL).
- (71) Applicant (for CA only): SHELL CANADA LIMITED [CA/CA]; 400 - 4th Avenue S.W., Calgary, Alberta T2P 2H5 (CA).
- (72) Inventor; and
(75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): CRUZ, Antonio,
- (81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:
— with international search report

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: PERCUSSIVE DRILL BIT



WO 2004/111381 A1

(57) Abstract: A percussive drill bit for drilling into a subterranean earth formation, the drill bit having a central longitudinal axis and being operable by applying repetitive axial percussive impacts on the drill bit in a direction having a component along the axis and by applying rotary motion about the axis relative to the earth formation, the drill bit comprising: - one or more axial cutters for predominantly axially cutting the subterranean earth formation in response to the axial percussive impacts; - one or more shear cutters for predominantly shear cutting the subterranean earth formation in response to the rotary motion; whereby there is a first shear cutter of the one or more shear cutters, and whereby one or more of the axial cutters are arranged with respect to at least the first shear cutter to engage with the subterranean earth formation earlier during a percussive impact than at least the first shear cutter.



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